



Application Serial No. 09/917,598
Response Dated: February 26, 2004
Reply to Office Action of December 19, 2003

E-2041

In re Application of:
Ernie Thomas and Lawrence Betz
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/917,598 ✓
Filed: 07/27/2001

For: SEMI-CONDUCTIVE FORCED AIR SYSTEMS HAVING
AMPLIFIED NOZZLES FOR HEATING LOW "E" COATED GLASS

Art Unit 1731
Examiner: Mark Halpern

Mail Stop Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as attached therein are being deposited today with the United States Postal Service as first-class, postage-prepaid mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

3/17/04
Date

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AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required by this paper and during the pendency of this application to Account No. 05-0208.

3/17/04
Date

John F.A. Earley III
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AMENDMENT

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated December 19, 2003, and is made to place the claims in condition for allowance.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS begin on page 2 of this paper.

REMARKS begin on page 15 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

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Applicant's present invention is not obvious over the cited combination of references relied upon by the Examiner. The independent claims, namely claim 1 and claim 23, have been amended. These claims more particularly point out that the compressed air as well as the oven air is combined in a nozzle in order to facilitate delivery of the air flow from the nozzle outlet to the work piece. Applicant's present invention is distinguishable in that the compressed air and the oven air mix within the nozzle means prior to exiting the outlet of the nozzle means. Applicant is unable to find in the cited references a disclosure or suggestion of the Applicant's present invention recited in claims 1 and 23. Applicant submits that the cited references taken alone, or even when combined fail to teach, suggest or disclose this novel feature of the Applicant's present invention. Accordingly, the invention, as claimed in the dependent claims 2-3, 6, 12-13, 15-16 and 18 should also be patentable over the cited references for the same reasons.

For the above reasons, Applicant's present invention is not obvious over the Friedel and Ritz references, and reconsideration and a withdrawal of the rejection is earnestly solicited.

If necessary, an appropriate extension of time to respond is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Patent Office Deposit Account No. 05-0208.

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If further matters remain in connection with this matter, the Examiner is
invited to telephone the Applicant's undersigned representative at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,
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